

# **Donkeys and Elephants**

**October 5, 2008**

1Sam 12:19-25

Dr. Jeff H. McCrory Jr.

## Synopsis:

We have been looking at the Bible for the last month, asking for guidance during an election season. Some have asked me for a list of issues or my selections for candidates. I will not provide this. You are smart. What I do provide are biblical guidelines for leadership choices.

-Texts for an Election Season and Bible Study Sheets

-Sermons on Election: Review

1. 1Sam 8: Corruption and Compromise

-no perfect people

-no perfect leader

-no perfect process

\*NOW CHOOSE

2. 1Sam 9: Incarnation

-the LORD rules through good leaders

3. 1Sam 10: Derivative Rule

-the LORD rules, we measure rule by God's rule

Today: Sum up and turn the choice over to you

THREE WORDS OF ADVICE

I.

### **Pick an Honest Leader**

1Sam 12:3 Whose ox have I taken?

Scene: Farewell Address of Samuel (1 Sam 12) p. 315

Who? Samuel, Saul, and people

Where? Gilgal

When? Just before 1000BC

What? Sum up leadership issues

READ 1Sam 12:1-5

-Samuel = George Washington address after serving one term

-What does he highlight?

Integrity, integrity, integrity  
E.g. Mom used to say this; hate myself when I fail

\*Whom will you choose with regard to honesty and integrity?

## II.

### **Pick a History**

1Sam 12:7 I will declare to you all the saving deeds of the LORD

We want someone who knows us thoroughly

E.g. My best friends have history with me  
-Barb, Quinn, Gary, my covenant group

READ 1Sam 12:6-18

\*History: my failure, rebellion; God's faithfulness

\*No one you choose will suffice.

Only God can know you: spouse, friends, leaders fall short

## III

### **Pick the LORD**

1Sam 12:24 Only fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart

We want someone who won't fail us

-Someone is going to lose: McCain or Obama  
-Someone is going to win  
-Life will go on; this has happened before

READ 1Sam 12:19-25

God is in charge, God is faithful  
Let God be in charge, be faithful to God  
\*Fear (not economics, health, family) God  
\*NOW CHOOSE

\*The most important choice you make is Jesus Christ (Middle C)

-The Table: Where God and we choose